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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

0054 Liquid leaks from a vessel cause shorts between at least one elongate sensing wire and another conductor when the fluid absorbs into the porous sheath of the sensing wire. The other conductor may comprise a second elongate sensing wire having similar porous sheath or a conductive tray or other conductive collection means. The sensing wire is placed in proximity to the vessel, such as beneath or immediately adjacent. Shorts are detected from the electrical characteristics of a circuit including the sensing wire and location is determined therefrom.